

Message

From: Sierra-Lopez, Omar [Sierra-Lopez.Omar@epa.gov]
Sent: 8/1/2019 7:43:31 PM
To: Minter, Douglas [Minter.Douglas@epa.gov]
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Additional Information Regarding the Dewey Burdock Uranium Mine Project

FYI

From: Quesinberry, Terry <terry_quesinberry@fws.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 1, 2019 12:25 PM
To: Robinson, Valois <Robinson.Valois@epa.gov>
Cc: Sierra-Lopez, Omar <Sierra-Lopez.Omar@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Additional Information Regarding the Dewey Burdock Uranium Mine Project

Sounds good and if it is determined to be hibernacula there is no defined buffer for winter activities. It might be simpler to implement a buffer and be able to avoid the need for a survey as a survey itself could be a disturbance. depending on timing and method.

Terry Quesinberry

Fish and Wildlife Biologist
US Fish and Wildlife Service
South Dakota Ecological Services Office
Pierre, SD
Phone: (605) 224-8693, x234
FAX: (605) 224-1416

On Thu, Aug 1, 2019 at 10:13 AM Robinson, Valois <Robinson.Valois@epa.gov> wrote:

That makes sense. Thanks for your quick reply.

Our mitigation measure for tree removal states:

Tree removal activities must be conducted outside of the northern long-eared bat active season (April 1 to October 31). This will minimize impacts to northern long-eared batpups at roosts not yet identified.

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

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Thanks!

Valois

Valois Robinson
U.S. EPA Region 8
MailCode: 8WD-SDU
1595 Wynkoop Street
Denver, CO 80202-1129
Phone: (303) 312-6276
Fax: (303) 312-6741
Email: robinson.valois@epa.gov

From: Quesinberry, Terry <terry_quesinberry@fws.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 1, 2019 8:41 AM
To: Sierra-Lopez, Omar <Sierra-Lopez.Omar@epa.gov>
Cc: Robinson, Valois <Robinson.Valois@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Additional Information Regarding the Dewey Burdock Uranium Mine Project

The issue is primarily if the shaft is determined to be a NLEB hibernacula. If a survey is completed that shows it is being used there would be some potential timing restrictions.

Terry Quesinberry

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On Tue, Jul 30, 2019 at 2:03 PM Sierra-Lopez, Omar <Sierra-Lopez.Omar@epa.gov> wrote:

Terry,

As per the ESA concurrence letter we received on July 8, 2019, additional information has become available concerning this project.

As per Shea Robinson (see email below) there is an abandoned mine in the project area. The vent shaft for that mine is pictured below.

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Please also see Shea's email below and let me know if you have any comments or how to proceed. Thanks.

Regards,

Omar Sierra-Lopez
Physical Scientist (Environmental)

U. S. Environmental Protection Agency

Water Division
Underground Injection Control
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EPA Region 8 website:

<http://www.epa.gov/uic/underground-injection-control-epa-region-8-co-mt-nd-sd-ut-and-wy>

From: Robinson, Valois <Robinson.Valois@epa.gov>
Sent: Monday, July 29, 2019 12:07 PM
To: Sierra-Lopez, Omar <Sierra-Lopez.Omar@epa.gov>
Subject: statement that no mines are present in Biological Assessment ...

Hi Omar,

This statement is in the Biological Assessment document on p. 17 paragraph A. for the Northern Long-

Eared bas and p. 19, first paragraph under Conclusion section:

...no caves or mines are located inside the project area ...

There is a vertical mine shaft in Section 35 near Burdock wellfield # 8. Would you run it by your contacts at F&W, please?

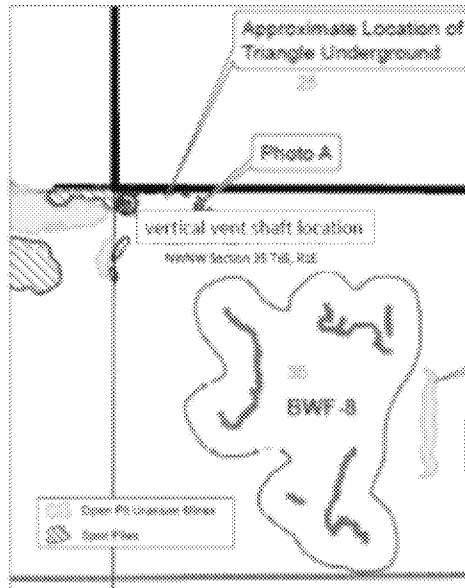
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I have included a photo and location map below. Maybe the bars across the shaft opening prevents bats from entering. Powertech measured the depth to the bottom of this vent shaft in April 2011 and found it to be 68 feet below ground surface with approximately 3 feet of groundwater.

Photo 3-B: Triangle Underground Mine Vent Shaft



Valois

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